

Serial No. 09/730,010

Docket No. 015916-277

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A probe, comprising:

an outer member defining a distal end and including a wall defining an interior bore;

an elongate body carried within the outer member interior bore and defining a distal region and a distal end operably connected to the distal end of the outer member;

an inflatable tissue coagulation body supported on the elongate body distal region; and

at least one sensing element supported on the ~~tissue coagulation~~ elongate body proximal to distal of the inflatable tissue coagulation body.

12. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 11, wherein the wherein the elongate body comprises a catheter body and the outer member comprises a sheath.

13. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 11, wherein at least the distal region of the elongate body includes a flexible spline.

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14. (Currently Amended) A probe, comprising:
an outer member defining a distal end and including a wall defining an interior bore;
an elongate body carried within the outer member interior bore and defining a distal region and a distal end operably connected to the distal end of the outer member, the distal region of the elongate body including a hinge portion located proximal of the distal end; and
an inflatable tissue coagulation body supported on the elongate body distal region.
15. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 14, wherein the inflatable tissue coagulation body is proximal to the hinge portion.
16. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 14, further comprising:
at least one sensing element;
wherein the inflatable tissue coagulation body is located one of distal to and proximal to the hinge portion and the at least one sensing element is located the other of distal to and proximal to the hinge portion.
17. (Previously Presented) A probe, comprising:
an outer member defining a distal end and including a wall defining an interior bore;
an elongate body carried within the outer member interior bore and defining a distal region and a distal end operably connected to the distal end of the outer member; and
a half-balloon tissue coagulation structure supported on the elongate body distal region.
18. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 11, wherein the inflatable tissue coagulation body includes micropores.

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19-20. (Canceled)

21. (Original) A probe for use with an outer member including a wall defining an interior bore, the probe comprising:

a tissue coagulation body; and

an elongate body, defining a distal region that supports the tissue coagulation body, adapted to be carried within the outer member interior bore and extend outwardly from the interior bore such that the distal region forms a loop, the elongate body including a hinge portion defining the apex of the loop formed by distal region, the hinge portion having a flexibility that allows the apex of the loop to be inserted into a pulmonary vein to such an extent that the tissue coagulation body will be substantially aligned with the pulmonary vein ostium.

22. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 21, wherein the elongate body defines a distal end and a proximal region, the probe further comprising:

a control element defining a distal portion associated with the distal end of the elongate body and a proximal portion extending along the exterior of the elongate body toward the proximal region of the elongate body.

23. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 21, wherein the loop defines a length and a height and the flexibility of the hinge portion is such that the loop length will be at least two times the loop height.

24. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 21, wherein the elongate body comprises a catheter body.

25. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 21, wherein at least the distal region of the elongate body includes a flexible spline and the hinge portion is formed in the flexible spline.

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26. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 21, further comprising:
at least one sensing element;
wherein the tissue coagulation body is located on one side of the hinge portion and the at least one sensing element is located the other side of the hinge portion.

27. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 21, wherein the tissue coagulation body comprises an inflatable tissue coagulation body.

28. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 27, wherein the inflatable tissue coagulation body comprises a half-balloon structure.

29. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 27, wherein the inflatable tissue coagulation body includes micropores.

30. (Original) A probe as claimed in claim 27, wherein the inflatable tissue coagulation body comprises a heated structure.

31-36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently Amended) A probe as claimed in claim 11, wherein the at least one sensing element is located on the elongate body such that the at least one sensing element will be ~~proximal to distal of the inflatable tissue coagulation body when the elongate body is in a linear state and will be~~ substantially aligned with the inflatable tissue coagulation body when the distal portion of the elongate body is in a loop state.

38. (Previously Presented) A probe as claimed in claim 14, wherein the wherein the elongate body comprises a catheter body and the outer member comprises a sheath.

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39. (Previously Presented) A probe as claimed in claim 17, wherein the wherein the elongate body comprises a catheter body and the outer member comprises a sheath.

40-41. (Canceled)

42. (New) A probe as claimed in claim 11, wherein the at least one sensing element comprises an electrode.

43. (New) A probe as claimed in claim 11, wherein the at least one sensing element comprises a plurality of electrodes.

44. (New) A probe as claimed in claim 11, wherein the at least one sensing element comprises at least one pacing and recording electrode.